

Message Text

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TAGS:

SUBJECT: MAURITANIA DISASTER-WATER

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 927

SUMMARY. AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS AGONIZING HOW TO PROCEED TO COUNTER SERIOUS LIVESTOCK SITUATION IN INTERIOR ON COUNTRY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS APPROVED "MINIMAL" PLAN WHICH DESIGNED TO DO WHAT IS REALISTICALLY POSSIBLE IN SHORT TIME FRAME STILL LEFT TO STAVE OFF MASSIVE ANIMAL DEATHS. PLAN CONSISTS OF TWO PARTS: FIRST PART PERTAINS TO IMMEDIATE DISASTER: SECOND PART PERTAINS TO LONGER TERM CONCERNS. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST IS DOLS 3.4 MILLION, OF WHICH GIRM CONTRIBUTION IS 2.2 MILLION. DETAILED PLAN WILL BE SUBJECT SEPARATE MSG. WITH THIS MSG WE REQUESTING DOLS 1.2 MILLION IN CASH TO EFFECT PROCUREMENTS LOCALLY, ALL ASSOCIATED WITH IMMEDIATE CRISIS. END SUMMARY.

1. GIRM PLAN, APPROVAL BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, IS TO TRY AND MINIMIZE ANIMAL DEATHS CURRENT DROUGHT WHILE LOOKING AT SAME TIME TOWARD THE LMNG TERM. PLAN HAS FOLLOWING ELEMENTS.

A. TEMPORARY WELLS

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(A) USE EXISTING SPECIAL WATER-SEEKING DRILL EQUIPMENT TO DRILL SMALL DIAMETER HOLES TO ACT AS TEMPORARY WELLS:

(B) THESE WELLS WILL BE TUBED, WITH WATER BEING BROUGHT TO SURFACE BY USE OF COMPRESSOR;

(C) 15 WELLS TO BE DRILLED, EACH TAKING 6-7 DAYS TO ACCOMPLISH. SINCE GIRM HAS ONLY ONE SPECIAVZTILL RIG TRAVEL TIME BETWEEN SITES INCLUDED IN 6-7 DAY PERIOD.

(D) MAXIMUM DEPTH EXPECTED TO BE 70 METERS?
(E) WELLS TO BE IN REGIONS 1(NEMA), 2(AIOUN), 3 (KIFFA)
AND 10 (SELIBABY).

(F) WELLS CAN ONLY BE DRILLED IN HARD EARTH;
B. WATER TRUCKS

(A) RENT 10 WATER TRUCKS TO HAUL WATER TO ANIMALS WHILE WELLS
ARE BEING DRILLED; ALSO TO HAUL WATER TO ANIMALS IN THOSE AREAS
WHERE WELLS CANNOT BE DRILLED; I.E. SANDY SOILS.

(B) WATER WOULD BE HAULED FROM SENEGAL RIVER AND LAKE KANKOSSA.
(C) CONSTRUCT WATER TROUGHS

C. VACCINATION

(A) SIMULTANEOUS WITH FOREGOING GIRM HAS MOBILIZED 25 MOBILE
LIVESTOCK VACCINATION TEAMS, COORDINATED BY 4 VETERINARIANS
WITH TOTAL STAFF OF 140 TO BEGIN CONCENTRATED VACCINATION PRO-
GRAM, WITH SPECIAL AIM OF TRYING TO SAVE HYOUNG LIVESTOCK.
TEAMS ALREADY MOBILIZED AND HAVE BEEN IN FIELD SINCE MARCH 25.

D. LONG TERM ASPECT.

(A) FOLLOWING IMMEDIATE PROGRAM PLAN INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION
OF 25 PERMANENT WELLS, ALSO IN REGIONS 1,2,2, AND 10.

E. COORDINATION.

(A) ENTIRE EFFORT TO BE MOBILIZED AND COORDINATED UNDER PLAN
D'URGENCE, I.E. MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

F. LIVESTOCK MOVEMENT.

(A) LIVESTOCK OF 5TH REGIONS WILL NOT BE OBSTRUCTED IN MOVEMENT
TO 3RD AND 10TH REGIONS, WHERE THERE STILL EXISTS PASTURAGE
(IN EARLIER DROUGHT GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED TO CONTROL MOVEMENT OF
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CATTLE).

C. RELIANCE ON SENEGAL AND MALI PASTURAGE

(A) AS REPORTED EARLIER MAURITANIAN LIVESTOCK ARE NOW LONGER

PERMITTED TO CROSS FROMTIER INTO SENEGAL;

(B) AS FOR TRANSHUMANCE INTO MALI, THIS HAS VIRTUALLY STOPPED
BECAUSE OF OUTBREAK OF CATTLE DEISEASE IN MAURITANIAN AND
BECAUSE MALI HAS SAME PROBLEM AS MAURITANIA, I.E.PASTURAGE
WITH NO WATER. (THIS IS WHY REGIONS 1 AND 2 ADDED TO CATTLE
LIVESTOCK LIST. IN THESE REGIONS SAME SITUATION EXISTS AS IN
REGIONS 3 AND 10, I.E. GOOD PASTURAGE BUT NO ATER).

2. IN VIEW FOREGOING INFLATABLE BLADDERS NO LONGER REQUIRED.

3. WITH THIS MSG WE REQUESTING DOLS 1.2 MILLION FOR PURCHASE
OF 15 COMPRESSORS, WELL TUBING, 10 TANK TRUCK RENTALS FOR
THREE MONTH INTERVAL AND CERTAIN MISCELLANEJOUS ITEMS.

DETAILED LIST WILL BE SENT SEPARATE MSG ALONR WITH EVALUATION
AS TO LOCATION OF PURCHASE, I.E. MAURITANIA OR SENEGAL. WOULD
HOPE FOR PROMPT RESPONSE THIS CRITICAL PHASE PRESENT DROUGHT,
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NEED TO FIX POPULATION TO EXTENT POSSIBLE
TIN ORDER TO STAVE OFF EXCESSIVE BURDENS ON URBAN AREAS AND
IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE CONDITIONS WHEREBY MAURITANIANS WILL

ABANDON INTERIOR AS ECONOMIC RESOURCE, AS WELL AS MINIMIZE
LOSS OF LIVELIHOOD TO HERDERS. KRYZA

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